PANS Eaglet

The official newsletter of the Polish-American Numismatic Society

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Olivia Yandora Wins Bronze – Highlighting a Related Field, Phaleristics

By Steven Bieda

PANS member Richard Yandora's granddaughter, Olivia, recently won the Bronze medal at the National in Speed Climbing competition in Beaverton, Oregon and is set to represent the U.S.A. in Helsinski, Finland for the World Climbing finals this August. Olivia is pictured here with the medal she won in Oregon.

As coin collectors we are mostly familiar with the term "numismatics," and some of us even use the term "numismatist" to impress our family and friends and generally sound important. But how many of you are familiar with the term "phaleristics"? I'm guessing very few of us have ever encountered, let alone used the term "phaleristics" even though it is closely associated with numismatics.

According to Wikipedia, Phaleristics, from the Greek mythological hero Phalerus via the Latin phalera, sometimes spelled faleristics, is an auxiliary science of history and numismatics which studies orders, fraternities, and award items, such as medals, ribbons, and other decorations.

Sports medals, such as the impressive medal awarded to Olivia, make up a collecting specialty often times focusing on one sport, or one sporting event. We congratulate Olivia Yandora and wish her the best in building her collection!

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Medal Honoring Pope Francis Created and Offered by Medalist Jurek Jakowicz

By Steve Bieda

Pope Francis, born Jorge Mario Bergoglio, served from March 13, 2013 to Easter Monday, April 21, 2025. In honor of the first Pope born in the Americas, medalist

Jurek Jakowicz created a beautiful memorial medal honoring the popular Pope.

The obverse of the medal depicts a frontal portrait of Pope Francis, his right hand slightly raised as if bestowing a blessing, a subtle smile on his face. A papal crest is in the field to the viewer's right, and the years of his birth 1936 and death 2025 appear on top of each other on the viewer's left in incuse lettering. A facsimile of his signature follows the rim of the medal on the viewer's left.

The reverse of the medal depicts the State Coat of Arms for Vatican City, with the inscription "STATO DELLA CITTA DEL VATICANO" (State of Vatican City) encircling the main design.

The medal itself has been struck in bronze, with an initial minting of only 50. It measures 76 mm and has what is commonly known as an "antique finish." The medals were struck by Medalcraft Mint.

Medalist Jurek Jakowicz was born in Poland and raised in the city of Lodz. He was educated in art at the Government College of Art and the University of Lodz. Jakowicz later immigrated to the United States in 1985. He currently maintains a private studio in Ocala, Florida.

The Pope Francis memorial medal can be ordered directly from the sculptor, who is offering them at $175 plus $15 postage and handling. Checks can be made to the sculptor and sent to his attention at 8322 SW 84th Place Road, Ocala, FL 34481. Inquiries can also be made via email at jurekjakowicz@gmail.com.

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Poland's First – Mieszko I, That Is

By Mark Benvenuto:

Photo courtesy of World Coin Gallery

It is always fascinating to look back to the origin of a place, a people, or even an idea. In the case of Poland, it is the man history records as Duke Mieszko I, or as Piast Prince Mieszko, or simply as the first ruler of Poland.

The rather enormous run of 2Zł coins Poland has produced in the recent past makes one think that there ought to be a piece honoring the man who got the entire nation started. Oddly, this does not seem to be the case.

During the years of the Communist government though, there were two coins honoring Mieszko, one in base metal, and one in silver. The design is the same for each, as shown in the photos here, with only the denomination being different.

The 50 Zł seen here is not particularly hard to find, or particularly costly. This is most likely because the collector base for such coins is rather thin.

As mentioned, the 200Zl is silver, and thus will always have a price tag associated with the precious metal.

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► Spot prices as of 30 July. 2025	
Gold:	$ 3,338.80/troy ounce
Silver:	$ 38.36/troy ounce
Copper:	$ 5.62/pound
Platinum:	$ 1,415.95/troy ounce
Palladium:	$ 1,283.00/troy ounce
$US-Złoty exchange: 3.73	

Have you been able to join us on the web? Try: www.pans-club.org. Or, on Facebook? If not, please go to Facebook, find PANS, and see what events are coming up for our society.

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Once again, come to the meetings and win

Your PANS meets once a month, except for July and August, and is generous in raffling off one Polish coin per meeting. Why not attend a meeting, and see if you can add something to your growing collection?

Send in your finds.

Have you found any Polish coins of note, perhaps squirreled away in some dealer's stock of foreign coins? If you have found a hidden treasure, or one hiding in plain sight, e-mail Mark a photo and a brief write-up of how you came upon it. The PANS members will most likely be interested in hearing about it.

Remember folks, please pay your dues for 2025! That's $20 for the year – $30 if you'd like the PANS Eaglet mailed quarterly.

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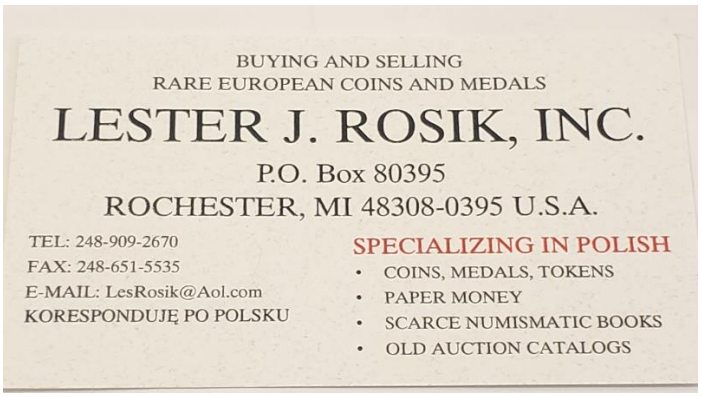

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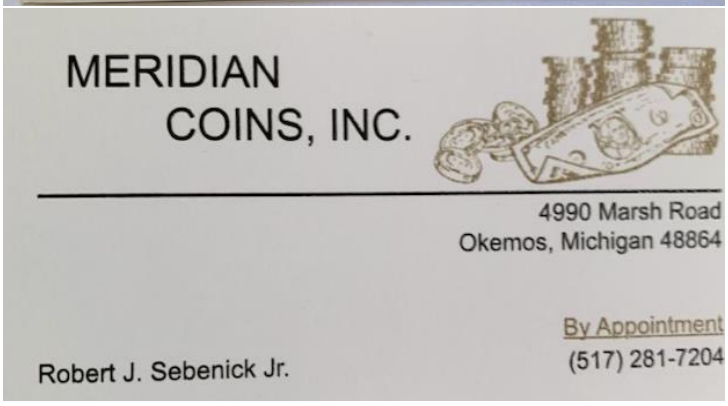

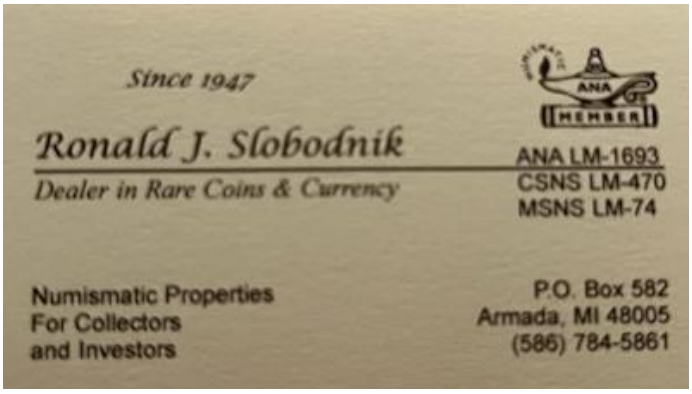

Polish-American Numismatic Society meets monthly at: American Polish Cultural Center, 2975 E. Maple Rd., Troy, MI 48083

➔ Your advert here, if you wish. Please contact Mr. Les Rosik for the details.

Polish American & Huron Valley Numismatic Societies
Present Our Annual Regional Coin Show

SUMMER LOCATION

COIN SHOW

Sunday
August 24, 2025
10 am – 4 pm

Madison Place Hall

876 Horace Brown Drive
South of 13 Mile Road
Madison Heights, Michigan

FREE Admission

BUY – SELL - TRADE
COINS – PAPER MONEY
MEDALS – TOKENS – BOOKS – SUPPLIES
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Polish-American Numismatic Society meets monthly at: American Polish Cultural Center, 2975 E. Maple Rd., Troy, MI 48083

Join Our Club

We meet on the first Saturday of the month at 12:00 PM at the American Polish Cultural Center located at 2975 East Maple Road (15 Mile Road) at Dequindre Road in Troy, Michigan. Visit the PANS Club website at www.pans-club.org for details. We currently have 10 meetings per year (August through May) with 2 months off during the summer. The Polish American Numismatic Society also plans a Christmas Oplatek Dinner during the Holiday Season. Meeting agendas include business matters and informative lectures from renowned guest speakers on topics including error and variety coins, significant coins in Polish history, Hamtramck scrip, coin photography. Open and lively member discussions about US and Polish numismatics are encouraged. Of course, the meeting would not be complete without coffee and delicious Polish pastries. The Polish American Numismatic Society hosts two very successful public coin show at the American Polish Cultural Center. Our primary show always takes place on the third Sunday of February. PANS also hosts a second show in August. Shows have been co-hosted with other clubs in the region. If you have any interest in numismatics, please attend a meeting and sign up as a member. PANS dues are only $20.00 per year or $30 per year if you would like the PANS Eaglet newsletter sent to your mail on a quarterly basis. PANS Club Membership is a great way to meet collectors with similar interests and knowledgeable dealers willing to share their experiences in a hobby that we all enjoy. To become a member-in-good-standing, plan to attend a minimum of 5 meetings per year and perform club-related duties at PANS Club sponsored Coin Shows.

Membership Application *I hereby make application for membership in the Polish American Numismatic Society, subject to the rules and regulations set forth in the Constitution and By-laws*.

SIGNATURE: _____

PRINT NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE/ZIP: _____

EMAIL: _____

RECOMMENDED BY: _____

DATE ACCEPTED: _____

FIRST YEAR DUES PAID: _____

I COLLECT: _____

Attend a meeting or mail to: PANS, PO BOX 80515, ROCHESTER, MI 48308